GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:885
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH DAMS ON CANALS
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to divert water beyond Bindhya mountain ranges by constructing high dams in the Himalayan region through canals or by siphoning system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b): Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development in 1980 which envisages inter linkages among Peninsular Rivers and Himalayan Rivers for transferring water from surplus basins to water deficit areas for optimum utilisation of water resources. Under the Peninsular component, interlinking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauveryand Vaigai and under Himalayan Component inter alia linking of tributaries of Brahamputra with Ganga and Mahanadi is envisaged. TheGovernment of India has established the NationalWater Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and other studies and prepare feasibility reports.The NWDA has identified 30 linkages forpreparing feasibility report of which six feasibility reports have been prepared. These interlinks include high dams on rivers and the water transfer will take place through canals. Recently, the Union Government has set-up a Task Force on December 13, 2002 with a view to bringing about a consensus among the States and provide guidanceo n norms of appraisal of individual projects and modalities for project funding, etc., for implementing the interlinking of rivers.